



## Engineers never say, “a bridge too far”

Story and photo by Pfc. Sean Finch

MNC-I PAO

In order to reduce the hazardous travel time associated with convoys, semi-permanent bridges have been erected for convoys to cross rivers, instead of driving around them.

Semi-permanent bridges can be built in 30 days or less but require maintenance due to the normal wear-and-tear of their usage, said Lt. Col. R. Mark Toy, commander, 84th Engineer Battalion.

Soldiers with 84th Eng. Bn. continued the mission of maintaining and repairing these bridges in As-Sindiyah, a province south of Balad, Wednesday.

The semi-permanent bridge in As-Sindiyah, like any bridge of its kind, needs maintenance that would not be found in a bridge designed for permanent use, said 1st Lt. Nathan Hanawalt, team commander, 50th Company, 84th Eng. Bn.



**American Soldiers with the 50th Company, 84th Battalion, 130th Engineer Brigade, work together and teach the Iraqi Security Forces troops how to service semi-permanent bridges while on a mission to maintain and service a bridge in As-Sandiyah, Wednesday.**

“Some of the most common problems with these bridges are, they have a tendency to have bolts become loosened and retaining pins coming loose,” said Hanawalt.

There are ways to minimize the wear-

and-tear effects and help reduce the time required for maintenance on semi-permanent bridges, said Hanawalt.

“We make the speed limits on the bridges slower because it decreases the amount of friction on the bridge. Friction is the biggest cause of pins coming out and nuts and bolts coming loose,” said Hanawalt.

Throughout Iraq, the posted speed limit signs for semi-permanent bridges, like the one in As-Sindiyah, is 10 miles per hour.

Other problems with semi-permanent bridges in Iraq, include drivers hitting the side rails, said Sgt. John Albertson, 50th Co.,

84th Eng. Bn.

“Sometimes you can see that people have driven their vehicles into the railing which is an important part of the bridge’s struc-

see BRIDGE, page 3

## Cooking instructions: Pull tab, wait 35 - 45 minutes, eat

Story and Photo by Lance Cpl. Drew Hendricks

MNC-I PAO

Officers and noncommissioned officers in charge of resources and sustainment throughout the theatre of operation, along with Soldiers in the field, are testing a new meal option for servicemembers.

The new unitized group ration-express, developed by the Natick Soldier Center, is a com-



**Master Sgt. Anita Marve, serves up green beans from the vegetable tray included in the new unitized group ration express during a taste testing at Camp Victory, Iraq, March 4.**

pact, self-contained module that provides a complete, hot meal

for 18 servicemembers. The UGR-E comes in a container about the size of two meal-ready-to-eat boxes. The box contains an entrée tray, starch tray and dessert tray, along with utensils, plates, condiments, candy, cleaning supplies, trash-bags and other goodies to make the UGR-E a one-stop shop for a meal.

While still a prototype, the UGR-E was issued to the 4th Infantry Division for field test-

ing.

“We distributed 16 modules to various military transition teams, since they will be the ones most likely to employ them,” said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Richard Francois, 4th ID. “The feedback we have received from them so far has been really positive.”

The main purpose for the UGR-E is to provide a suitable and healthy meal for units that see FOOD, page 2

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## FOOD

are too far away to reach a proper dining facility.

"These (UGR-E) will require less logistics when we need to get them to units in remote locations," said Francois. "Essentially you can cook without a cook."

While the meal is balanced and will provide enough nutrition for servicemembers, they will be further enhanced with extra amenities such as fresh fruit, power bars and other nutrition supplements to offer variety.

The UGR-E is not meant to be a replacement for MRE's, it is simply an alternative to individual meals as the sole source of sustenance.

The simplicity of it all is what was so appealing to those who tested it, according to Master Sgt. Anita Marve, food operations management, Multi-National Corps-Iraq.

"All you have to do is pull a tab and wait, and everything you need is in one box," said Marve.

The UGR-E is simple to operate, pull the tab and a saline solution is distributed to the individual heaters initiating the reaction. The heaters are meant to raise the temperature of the food from 40 to 140 degrees within 30-45 minutes, according to Natick.

Natick says future enhancements will explore endothermic reactions in order to chill beverages and other components.

While successfully passing the most crucial of tests, taste, one issue was raised. The meal just was not hot enough.

"I'm not one to be picky but the food was not hot, it was warm but not hot like a normal meal," said Brig. Gen. Kathleen Gaine, deputy chief of staff, resources and sustainment, Multi-National Forces-Iraq. "That's one reason why the UGR-E is so appealing. It is supposed to provide a hot meal for our troops."

If the UGR-E can hold up to standards, it will allow the military to provide a good meal to the troops without large-scale dining facilities.

"Another benefit and a reason why I think this should be pushed into production is this will allow us to leave a smaller foot print in country," said Gaine. "It will keep us from having to build large permanent dining facilities. We will be able to close FOB's down instead of having to build more and more."

Though the UGR-E has passed almost all the steps to move from the prototype phase to full-scale production, it still has much more testing to go through, but it does look like servicemembers serving far from the FOB's can expect to be eating dinner from a box very soon.

## Chaplain's Corner

### Hamburger Theology



Charles M. Herring  
Chaplain (Major)  
MNC-I RSO

*"Therefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and rest your hope fully upon the grace that is to be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ." I Peter 1:13*

The human mind is a marvelous thing. In a convoy, staging or break area in the palace you can memorize life-changing Bible verses that can strengthen you in your daily life. You can meditate upon the Holy Word of God and discover eternal truths. You can discern between His truth and lies. You can remember God's past blessings. All of these wonderful

things you can do with your mind!

Effective and successful military personnel are those who discipline their minds in order to become truly professional. This is true for those who discipline their minds for God's service. Three biblical examples are Moses, Isaiah and Paul. Moses was educated in the best schools of Egypt. He prepared the Books of the Law for the Israelites. Isaiah used his mind to write a prophetic book in the Bible. Paul learned under Gamaliel, a famous teacher of his day. It was through Paul that God presented much of the theology found in the New Testament.

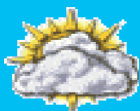
Sadly, many of us do not exercise our minds to be of service to God. We allow others to do our spiritual thinking for us. If we can find our theology in a book, we will not bother to study God's Word. If a

speaker makes an authoritative statement, we readily accept it without verifying whether it is biblical or not. My theology professor at Duke called this "hamburger theology" – from an old burger chain advertising, "Have it your way!" Just slapping it all together without any thought or design is not the way to enjoy a proper hamburger and more important your personal study of God.

Paul further urged us to strive for maturity in our thinking. He said there was a time when his spiritual thinking was immature (hamburger theology), but he had prepared his mind to know and understand the truths of God. He had not allowed others to do his thinking for him. When we became persons of faith, God renewed your mind. Let's use our minds in a way that brings glory to God.

## Camp Victory Three-day forecast

### Wednesday



Mostly Cloudy  
High: 83 F  
Low: 66 F

### Thursday



Partly Cloudy  
High: 82 F  
Low: 53 F

### Friday



Sunny  
High: 70 F  
Low: 50 F



## SECURITY NEWS YOU CAN USE

### Marking and Safeguarding Classified Material

Few things will facilitate a security compromise like an unmarked or mis-marked document, disk, or memory stick. When we forget to mark classified material properly, we leave ourselves open to accidental spills, disclosures, or loss, which can significantly impair critical wartime operations and can disrupt our ability to conduct daily routine operations (servers get shut down when spills occur and have to be isolated and removed). The MNF/C-I Classification Guide, posted on the MNC-I SIPR website under special staff, FDO, "FDO CSD Library," is a tool that will assist you in properly identifying classified information and marking it properly. That means banner and portion markings on documents, slides, and briefings and emplacing security stickers or other markings on disks and memory sticks, regardless of the size or style. Sharpie markers can be very useful in this regard. It is also important to remember to separate your disks based on the level of information contained and the system in which it is used, i.e., a memory stick used once in CENTRIXS can only be used in CENTRIXS and should be marked as such; one used once in SIPR should only be used in SIPR, etc. (Any government information that needs to be moved between systems requires the assistance of the FDO office, contact them on e-mail at the MNFIFDO Group Account.) One final note: when you are finished using the classified data, you must store it properly. This is especially true of small items like disks and memory sticks, which should be stored in an approved container in your work area. If we all take a little time to mark and store our classified material properly, we can prevent future compromises and get back to the mission at hand!

## BRIDGE

ture, and while our bridges are certainly well built, hitting the railing can cause a lot of problems," said Albertson.

Unfortunately, accidents like that are always going to happen, said Albertson.

During bridge repairs, security is pulled from both sides of the bridge. Security for the bridges closes off the route to civilians attempting to travel through.

"During the repair time, we have to block both entrances to the bridge and keep local nationals waiting, sometimes impatiently, to cross the river," said Pfc. Bradley Porter, gunner, 84th Eng. Bn.

As many as 200 cars can pile up on either side of the bridge during repairs, making crowd control a difficult task, said Albertson.

"We are always wary of the guys who come too close to us, and while it may seem offensive to have a crew-served weapon pointed at them, we can never be too careful," said Porter.

While completing the mission, Soldiers were joined in their efforts by other forces.

"The great part about today's bridge repair is that we have some Iraqi Security Forces troops, as well as security support from the Georgian military here to help us out," said Hanawalt.

The bridge maintenance in As-Sindiyah is located less than 50 meters from a bridge built by Iraqi nationals. When the group finished with the coalition bridge, they were more than willing to repair what they could on the Iraqi bridge, added Hanawalt.

It is really important to keep our forces mobile, and bridge maintenance is one of the best ways to do that, said Hanawalt.

"This mission is all about continuing assured mobility for our troops and making convoy travel faster and more efficient, and that's exactly what we've done," concluded Toy.



## And the band plays on...

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Lance Cpl. Drew Hendricks

*Sgt. Zacharie Da Shiell, a tuba player with the V Corps Army Band, along with 13 band mates are sworn in for reenlistment by Lt. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli, commander Multi-National Corps-Iraq, March 6. Since arriving in January, the band has accomplished over 60 missions in various roles.*

**Montgomery Gentry**  
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CMA's Duo of the Year in 2000  
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The Academy of Country Music Award for Top New Vocal Group or Duo  
2000 & 2001 Radio & Records Readers' Poll Award for Top Country Duo  
No Video or Audio Recording Permitted

**Date:** March 9 **Time:** 8 p.m. **Place:** Camp Victory Stage

**USO Sponsors:** at&t, Coca-Cola, M&M's, The Post, Clear Channel, and others.

### Support of Dependents— A Soldier's Responsibility

Non-support of family members continues to be the number one request for assistance made to Inspector Generals across the entire Army. AR 608-99 (Family Support, Child Custody, and Paternity) sets forth Department of the Army policy, responsibilities, and procedures on financial support of family members, child custody and visitation, paternity, and compliance with court orders regarding these and related matters.

The Army recognizes the transient nature of military duty. However, AR 608-99 prohibits the use of a Soldier's military status or assignment as reason to deny financial support to family members. Soldiers must continue to support their family members as long as there is a legal obligation by marriage or custody until there is a valid court order, written agreement, or a proper relief from the chain of command as outlined in AR 608-99. All Soldiers also have the following responsibilities:

(1) Soldiers are required to manage their personal affairs in a manner that does not bring discredit upon themselves or the

United States Army.

(2) Maintain reasonable contact with family members so that their financial needs and welfare do not become official matters of concern for the Army.

(3) Conduct themselves in an honorable manner with regard to parental commitments and responsibilities.

(4) Provide adequate financial support to their family members and comply with all court orders.

Commanders and leaders have the responsibility to ensure their Soldiers are meeting their obligations under AR 608-99 by periodically counseling Soldiers on their financial support obligations and promptly investigating and replying to all requests for assistance by family members who may be entitled to support. Commanders should inform Soldiers that failure to provide financial support to family members on a monthly basis is a violation of AR 608-99 and is punishable under UCMJ.

For more information on a Soldier's family support obligation, contact your local servicing legal advisor or inspector general.

## Around Iraq



**Spc. Craig Naputi Quinata (Left) operates the raw water pump while Spc. Arthur Relech (Right) pulls security at Forward Operating Base Normandy, Iraq. Quinata and Relech are water purification specialists in the Guam Army National Guard's 909th Quartermaster Detachment.**

Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Wojciechowski

### Civil Affairs Soldiers deliver essential goods to orphans

4th BCT PAO, 4th Inf. Div.

BAGHDAD – Soldiers from the 425th Civil Affairs Battalion, currently attached to the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, donated essential goods and toys to Iraqi children from the Salhiya Orphanage in the Karadah district of central Baghdad Wednesday.

The civil affairs mission was one of many aimed to help orphan children in and around the greater Baghdad area.

Working in conjunction with the Army Corps of Engineers, 425th CA delivered approximately \$500 worth of supplies to the orphanage.

"Giving gifts to people is probably one of the best things we do here in Iraq," said Capt. Scott Ginsburg, civil affairs officer, Company A, 425th CA.

According to Ginsburg, every civil affairs mission is gratifying, and establishing good relationships is essential to help perpetuate peace for the Iraqi people.

"There are two sides to war," he said. "There is a lethal side and a non-lethal side, and obviously our job is to form great relationships with the people."



Photo by Spc. L.C. Campbell

**Albanian Kommandos display defensive tactics while at Logistical Support Area Diamondback. The Kommandos, 1st Battalion, controls the battle space near LSA Diamondback, as well as some guard towers around the installation. The Albanian units serve six month rotations in theater.**



Photo by Staff Sgt. Mark Wojciechowski

**Iraqi Police recruits tactically secure a stairwell during a training exercise at the Scorpion Training Academy in Diyala Province, Iraq.**



## Operating hours

### Coalition Cafe

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Dinner 5:30 - 8 p.m.  
Midnight Dining 11 p.m. - 1 a.m.

### Sports Oasis

Breakfast 5:30 - 8:30 a.m.  
Lunch 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.  
Dinner 5:30 - 9 p.m.

### Shopette

Open 24 Hours

### Camp Liberty Post Exchange

Everyday 8 a.m. - 10 p.m.

### Fitness Center

Open 24 Hours  
Chapel (Bldg. 31)

### Sunday:

Protestant Service 7 and 8:45 a.m.  
Catholic Mass 10:30 a.m.  
Gospel Service Noon  
Mormon (LDS) 2 p.m.  
Episcopal 4 p.m.  
Full Life Service 6 p.m.

### Saturday:

7th Day Adventist 11 a.m.  
Catholic Mass 8 p.m.  
Mini-Chapel (Bldg. 2)

### Friday:

Jewish Service 6:30 p.m.  
Eastern Orthodox services:

### Saturday:

Vespers 5 p.m.  
Confession 5:30 p.m.  
Bible Study 7 p.m.

### Sunday:

Divine Liturgy 9 a.m.

### Post Office

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Saturday - 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.  
Sunday 1 - 5 p.m.

### Golby Troop Medical Clinic

### Sick Call Hours:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon  
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

### Dental Sick Call:

Monday - Friday 7:30 - 10:30 a.m.  
Saturday 9 - 10:30 a.m.

### Mental Health Clinic:

Monday - Friday 8 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Saturday 9 a.m. - noon

### Post Deployment Health Briefings:

Monday - Friday 1 p.m.

### Pharmacy:

Monday - Friday 7:30 a.m. - noon  
Saturday & Sunday 9 a.m. - noon

### Client Services

Saturday - Thursday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.  
Friday 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

### Personnel Service Support Centers

Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Sunday 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

### ID Cards

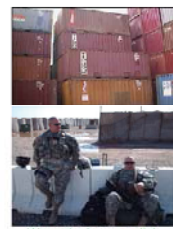
Monday - Friday  
9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**MNC-I**  
presents  
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220 Support, 2005-2006  
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When: Friday, March 10, 2006  
6 - 7:30 p.m.  
Where: Al Faw Palace  
Ballroom  
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Free Food  
International  
Sisterhood, Rebuilding  
and Memorial  
*Women's History Month*

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Wed. 2 - 8 p.m.  
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Contact Camp Victory Main Post Office for any questions. DSN 318-822-2934 or DSN 318-822-4894

**Talent Search**  
Do you have a talent that deserves recognition? Male /Female !  
Let us be the Judge of that .... Last opportunity  
Final Auditions 10<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> March 2006  
3 to 5 p.m. auditions will be held  
At 22<sup>nd</sup> SIG BDE CNOSC BLDG 43  
(Follow the signs inside)  
Selected personnel will perform and compete for prizes  
in the 2006 Women's History Month Talent Competition  
For additional information contact, email Staff Sgt. Jayson Sims  
at [jayson.sims@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:jayson.sims@iraq.centcom.mil) or Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class Marjorie Irby  
at [marjorie.irby@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:marjorie.irby@iraq.centcom.mil), DSN 822-4712.

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Master Sgt. Johnson  
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Camp Victory Gym  
SUNDAYS - 8 - 9 P.M.



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### Submit letters from home

Is your loved one deployed in support of Multi-National Corps-Iraq? Would you like to write him or her a message in the Victory Times? Send messages, three to four lines of text to [brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil). Ensure to include Soldiers name, rank, and unit.

Victory Times welcomes columns, commentaries, articles and letters from our readers. Send submissions or comments to [brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil](mailto:brian.anderson@iraq.centcom.mil). We reserve the right to edit for security, accuracy, propriety, policy, clarity and space.

## DRIVE SAFELY !!

This driver was wearing his seat belt, driving within the speed limit and he was in his proper lane.



The driver of this vehicle had his life tragically altered by a reckless driver.

**Don't be the OTHER driver!!**

MNC-I Commanding General: Lt. Gen. Peter W. Chiarelli  
MNC-I Public Affairs Officer: Lt. Col. Michelle L. Martin-Hing  
MNC-I PA Sergeant Major: Sgt. Maj. Paul J. Stevenson  
MNC-I Command Info Chief: 1st Class Laurence R. Lang  
MNC-I DVIDS Manager: Sgt. 1st Class Gloria E. Colon  
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